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University of Northern Iowa Secondary Teacher Education Senate Meeting Minutes, April 18, 2013

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Secondary Teacher Education Senate
Thursday April 18, 2013
3:30
McCollum Science Hall 124

Minutes

I. Roll and Introductions

Present: Cherin Lee (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Dianna Briggs (Business Education), Terri Lasswell (Clinical Experiences), Barb Bakker (Physical Education/Health Education), Chad Christopher (Social Science Education), Doug Hotek (Technology Education), Rick Knivslund (Art Education), Elizabeth Zwanziger (Modern Languages & TESOL), Rick Vanderwall (English Education), Ben Forsyth (Professional Sequence), Cathy Miller (Mathematics Education), Katheryn East (Teacher Education Faculty Chair), Kyle Gray (Science Education ALT), Kyle Kramer (Undergraduate Student), Courtney Lubs (Teacher Practitioner), Katherine Lavelle (Speech & Theatre Education), Chris Curran (Special Education)

Absent: JD Cryer (Coordinator, Elementary Education), Kevin Droe (Music Education)

Guests: Rob Boody (Director of Assessment), Becky Hawbaker (Coordinator, Student Field Experiences), Ira Simet (Associate Professor, Chemistry & Biochemistry)

I. Approval of March 28 minutes

Doug H. moved to approve the minutes and Katherine Lavelle seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Updates:

- Executive Committee – This committee has not met since last report at end of March.
- Iowa accreditation process

Cherin presented the options that Larry Bice, Higher Education Consultant in the DOE, presented to the Iowa Board of Education. The three proposed options are:

1. Do nothing – Cherin commented that given the current political climate that is not an option.
2. Keep the Iowa program but modify in several ways, using part of the CAEP accreditation standards.
3. Adopt CAEP accreditation which is the sole accreditation for teacher preparation in the United States. CAEP takes the place of TEAC (Teacher Education Accreditation Council) and NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education). CAEP standards have been reviewed but are not yet approved. Cherin will send around a copy of the standards and the web address.

Cherin commented on existing accreditation in Iowa. Five higher education institutions (out of 31 or 32) are currently NCATE accredited. One is TEAC

accredited. The rest are not accredited at the national level. In the past there was a push to belong to NCATE but not even half of the teacher preparation programs in the US belong to NCATE. There are 1,985 teacher preparation programs in the nation, of those, 430 are alternative licensure (and thus not involved in accreditation). Only 640 of the remaining 1,555 are NCATE accredited.

Someone asked, "Will the state mandate that we become accredited at the national level?" "Can we devise our own system with CEAP?" The Iowa Board of Education is discussing this. IACTE has written up a position statement on this. Part of the issue is cost as annual dues are close to \$5000 for a program of our size and the accreditation visit nearly \$50,000. Jason Glass wants the vote to be on May 14.

Doug Hotek asked if we can send our opinion on this. Rick V. noted that it is way too early to make this decision when the CAEP standards are not yet officially approved. Katheryn East stated that this is good reason for the Teacher Education Faculty to meet. Cherin said UNI was asked by IACTE to act on their statement and that the Executive Council will need to review the IACTE statement and send a comment to the Iowa BOE.

Rick V. moved that the Secondary Senate send a memo to the Executive Council that it is far too early for UNI to endorse the adoption of the CAEP accreditation process. Doug Hotek seconded. Motion passed.

- Convocation – Katheryn East commented that there was a good crowd and everything went well except for the exchange of pins on stage. She said it was good to see the Deans on stage. Doug Hotek noted that the numbers were lower than last fall.

IV. Old Business

- Alumni Survey – feedback to Rob

Cherin asked if there was input from anyone other than Cherin. The answer was no but Rob said he is fine with what he has.

- edTPA – vote on use as program assessment

Cherin informed the Senate that the Elementary Education Senate voted "yes" to use the edTPA as our program assessment. Rob added some clarification. She asked if this Senate wanted further discussion before acting on this matter.

Rick Vanderwall noted that he worked with JD and together they scored an edTPA. It has good points but brevity is not one of them. He noted that previous discussion was UNI assessing 90% of the edTPAs and sending 10% to Pearson to scoff. Rick has a problem with not having us score the students. Cherin said edTPA was originally slated to be "standardized" this spring but now it is fall 2013. Rick V. asked "Will students be asked to use edTPA in the fall?" Rob said we could use TWS and Praxis II or edTPA and Praxis II. Chris Curran has looked at content and the length of time was similar between TWS and edTPA. The question was posed whether scoring is going to be part of each instructor's work load. Ben F. scored about a dozen for science and the first ones took him around 5 hours but the time got

shorter and the last ones took about 1-1/2 hours per edTPA. Cathy Miller's colleagues found that in the end it takes longer than TWS. She noted that we struggle in getting faculty to assess the TWS; what will happen with the edTPA? Rick V. feels that this question regarding scoring during load or off load is for the Executive Council. It could be a union issue if we are talking about load.

Cherin talked about infusing through level I, II and III. This process was also used in adopting the TWS. Rick K. feels this should be supported by administrators. He had issues with the standards. Rick K. said "Just like the TWS, there is no quality control which would not change in edTPA." Rick V. had a conference with a student who wrote an edTPA and liked it and the students doing the TWS were jealous. For many students it may be an easier process. Katherine L. feels that maybe now is the time to adopt edTPA so there is sufficient time for students and faculty to gain more understanding of the process.

Chris C. noted that not many TWS's nor edTPAs are done in Special Education. Terri Lasswell clarified that edTPAs and TWSs are done during the first student teaching placement, whichever classroom the students are in. Chris wanted to have numbers of edTPAs representative of the special education minor. Terri L. said she doesn't know if that is possible. Cherin indicated that none of the minors are getting automatically assessed.

During the Feb. 2013 Senate meeting, Rick V. moved to table discussion on this topic. Dianna moved to adopt edTPA instead of TWS as our performance assessment with logistics to be worked through. Kyle and Doug seconded. Motion passed.

- Changes in Praxis I: resetting cut scores for admission to Teacher Education

JD and Cherin have not yet met with Hina Patel (ISU) and Susi Lagos-Lavenz (U of I). The Elementary Senate discussed keeping the scores the same between the three institutions. Cherin asked if the scores should be raised. The Executive Council would like input from the senates on this topic. Cherin asked that any input be directed to her and Rick V. Chad Christopher asked why would we change the cut off scores and make them different from ISU and U of I. Cathy Miller said keeping the scores the same between the three institutions keeps people from shopping around for the lowest cut score. Cherin mentioned the quality of program and asked if the funnel should be tightened at the beginning with Praxis I? Kyle looked at many institutions regarding GPA's. Cherin can send this out to the senate to review if you want data before you make this decision. Cherin asked "Would you like to raise them or keep them the same as ISU or U of I?" Cathy Miller doesn't want to raise and wants to keep at a comparable level with ISU and U of I. Kyle feels that having more data would be better for a decision such as this. Cherin said we won't be able to wait until fall 2013 to make a decision on this.

V. New Business

- Teacher Education Diversity Committee Update

Cathy Miller is the Chair of the Teacher Education Diversity Committee. Work was started this semester with the goal to revisit things in the past and learn from them. The following resulted from the committee meeting:

1. Collect data from students about field experiences in diverse placements. This is in United and reports are made after each field experience. This data is reported to the state during accreditation. Cherin said that documenting diversity is one of the six accreditation standards in Chapter 79.

2. An instrument to assess faculty needs to be programmatic.

The plan in the fall is to include further people and survey other diversity committees on campus such as the COE Diversity Committee. Becky Hawbaker said the diversity self-report on UNITED needs revising and recommended that Cathy take a look. Cathy will be working with Rob Boody this summer.

- Ad hoc Committee for Curriculum Management –

Ira Simet explained what this committee has done. It was created by the University Faculty Senate in response to program cuts last spring and started meeting in November. The committee is sharing the document that resulted from their meetings (see Cherin's email). The committee reviewed the program review process which happens every 7 years. They are looking at solutions to get faculty more involved. They are considering indicators to monitor the health of programs on an ongoing basis. Data would be shared with administration to see how healthy programs are on campus and what is valued. This would allow an ongoing look at programs and keep track of those that are at risk, providing for early intervention if issues arise.

Rick V. asked “What is our understanding with the administration that the work that the committee completes will be honored?” Ira stated that no programs could be eliminated without approval of the Faculty Senate. An agreement is needed that will allow for decision making.

Chris Curran mentioned the intent, program resources, and curriculum. Ira said the most dissatisfaction is that the size of the program was the only criteria for eliminating a program. A unique program that is small could be built into the decision.

Cherin said the ongoing process needs to be evaluated and that faculty need to look outside their departments.

Rick V. said that someone that doesn't have specific knowledge of the department doesn't have the knowledge of the program. Ira's hope is that the departments would get feedback rather than nothing at all.

Katherine L. said that when the end of year reports are turned in and there aren't enough students there is no recourse. Chris Curran mentioned interaction with departmental process vs. external review of reports. Ira said this is collaborative and trend based. There is an opportunity for departments to make a case for quality vs. size. Kyle brought up Geology and the number of students. Ira noted that if you could talk with other programs you could strategize. You can see if a program has a cyclical nature. Ben asked Ira what groups on campus this draft is being shown to. He said College Senates, the Graduate Council, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and the Registrar. Cherin mentioned a sense of being proactive before Dr. Ruud arrives.

- Action on acceptance or not of EDPSYCH 2017 Exploring Teaching taken as Dual Credit while in High School, policy discussion of 1 unit, no credit Exploring Teaching course as a requirement for all transfer students

Per Cherin, the full discussion won't happen today. A previous discussion took place about creating an online course for 1 unit, no credit to be offered as an Exploratory course next fall for students who transfer in credit for EDPSYCH 2017. At this point we cannot demand that transfer students take this. The question was posed whether this course should be a requirement or not. Becky has a copy of the syllabus to send to Senate before they meet. Cherin said the Senate needs to decide if they want to make a policy decision or postpone until a later date. She mentioned that we are currently in our curriculum cycle and if we don't make a decision now we will have to wait until 2014. At the next meeting we will discuss this more as well as the dual credit course issue.

- The Elementary Senate was asked what information they want at their disposal as we move forward in the change process in TE at UNI. Cherin asked what information this Senate would like to have. The replies are as follows:

Praxis II scores. Cherin noted we will have this spring's scores.

Conversations with Level III teachers to find out what they are doing

A description/map of the entire program. Each program might have a one paragraph description - (majors)

Data showing the struggles of all field experience placements, especially at Level III – across all programs.

Understand how Level III works prior to student teaching, i.e. what is the link?
Discussions between program constituencies

How many students leave teaching? How many leave and why?

Some means to follow students from Level I, II, III (issues and evaluations)

Kyle (student representative) said his Level I didn't transfer over from HCC to UNI. In fact what did not transfer was his background check. Cherin noted that background check information cannot be sent from one institution to another. A new background check at UNI is always required.

Cherin asked "What do you need to know about transfer students?"

How do students do after student teaching? (Data on where they get positions, etc.)

Information from student teaching – such as rubric results (Science Teaching has methods rubrics on UNITED).

Kyle moved to adjourn the meeting and Elizabeth seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 5:07.

- Meeting in May – possible agenda items:
 - o Regents Collaborative Alternative Licensure Program (ITILP: <http://www.uni.edu/coe/departments/department-teaching/iowa-teaching-intern-licensure-program-tilp>)
 - o Consideration of policy on background checks

The policy needs to be brought to the May Senate meeting-April 30 for Elementary Senate.

Replacements for Secondary Senate positions need to come with current Senators to the May meeting. Cherin reminded Ben and Doug that she will need to know their replacements.

Upcoming Dates

April 23 Executive Council Meeting 4:00 SRLY 119

Teacher Education Senate Meetings -- Spring 2013

Elementary Education Senate
April 30

Secondary Education Senate
May 9